

Marine Safety Office Houston-Galveston  
Marine Safety Unit Galveston  
Vessel Traffic Service Houston

**Port Security Information Bulletin**  
**PSIB 22-04**

**COORDINATION OF RESTRICTED CREWMEMBER OVERSIGHT**

**October 19, 2004**

Vessel and facility operators have very similar security requirements under the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) code, and Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) regulations. An area of common concern is the control of restricted crewmembers on vessels. Vessels are responsible for keeping restricted crewmembers onboard per Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requirements. Crewmembers who depart a vessel without authorization compromise the vessel's security measures, and the facility's access control measures as well.

Facilities have at least two areas where access control is exercised: the facility entrance, where people gain access to the facility from land; and the vessel, where people gain access to the facility from waterside. Past incidents of restricted crewmembers departing the vessel without authorization and disappearing into the community highlighted an area where additional control might have been exercised—facility access security. Due to the lack of information on the part of facility security regarding individuals not authorized to depart the vessel, security personnel did not have the ability to identify individuals who were not authorized to go ashore, or onto their facility.

One way to improve coordination of control activities between vessels and facilities is for vessels to provide a copy of the CBP Form I-259, "Notice to Detain, Remove or Present Alien", to facility security personnel. Crewmembers listed on this form are not authorized shore leave and are under restriction by CBP. Facility Security Personnel should not allow anyone listed on Form I-259 to depart the facility, or wander on the facility. If an individual listed on Form I-259 is discovered on, or attempting to depart, the facility, they should be detained; and vessel security personnel, CBP (713) 454-8016) and the USCG (713) 671-5133) should be immediately notified.

Vessel operators are advised to establish procedures for vessels to provide a copy of their Form I-259's to facility security personnel at each facility to which they call. This will facilitate more effective coordination of security procedures for access control during their port calls.

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